



Supporting our School and St Nicholas PTA

It is an exciting time to join St Nicholas CofE Primary (St Nick's) as the school is being equipped for the 21st century by being extended and reconfigured to create more class rooms including better and dedicated space devoted to science, art and special needs.

Our school is already achieving excellent results but it would not be possible without the support of our parents. Our school receives significantly less funding than most other schools in the borough. Government funding covers wages, premises, utility supplies and services. Once these are paid there is very little left and the shortfall works out at roughly £140 per child, per year or £12.00 per month per child if a bank mandate is in place. St Nicks really is reliant on the £30,000 cash raised annually by the PTA to cover essential teaching supplies and to provide a varied and exciting curriculum for our children.

Below are some of the ways in which you can support our PTA/school financially, although if you can't commit to a regular donation your help and time commitment is just as valuable. Please see the 'Time and Talent' form.

Voluntary PTA Donations*

A standing order form is attached at the end of this document. Only one completed form is required per family. Please remember to tick all the boxes for Gift Aid as this is an excellent way for the PTA to claim back a huge 25% on top of any donations (which can also be claimed retrospectively). One-off gifts are also welcome.

** Please note that the PTA donation scheme is NOT the same as the School Fund which is a benevolent collection to help boost funds for school visits, supporting those families who are unable to afford the full cost of class outings or residential visits.*

Match Funding

Over the last year and a half we have had a great response to our request for match funding. We would, however, be grateful if more parents asked their employers if they are able to matchfund upcoming PTA events e.g. the Ball and Party in the Pit.

All we ask is this: please pick up the phone and ask your HR or Community Relations Officer if they run a match funding scheme. St Nicks is an educational establishment and we have been successfully approved by a number of major corporate organisations such as Barclays, Deutsche Bank, Goldman Sachs, Ipsos, RBS, Royal Bank of Canada and Santander. Just reading the small print may put you off so, if your company runs a scheme, please contact Carina McEntire carina@biopharmsearch.co.uk who will be happy to walk you through it. Some companies may also run employee participation grant schemes, so it's definitely worth asking.

Parents have raised amounts ranging from £250 to £5,000 so it's definitely worth asking, particularly the major corporates. It doesn't cost you, the parent, a penny and it's tax efficient for the employer whilst ensuring their Corporate Social Responsibility targets are met. It's a no-brainer, really!

How does it work?

For instance, a parent who works for a company that offers matched funding, who volunteers to help out on one of our stalls at Fireworks Night: The profit made by the stall is £200 with the parent's employer then matching this amount with a further £200 (assuming they offer a £ for £ match). The amount offered will vary from company to company and further conditions may apply such as the requirement for the organisation to be a registered charity (which we are).

Payroll Giving

Payroll Giving (or Give As You Earn) is a scheme which allows anyone who pays UK income tax to give regularly on a tax-free basis. It means that your donation is deducted from your salary before tax so that each £1 you give will only cost you 80p. If you are a higher rate tax payer it will only cost you 60p. Some companies even match or double your donation! Over 9,000 businesses already offer the benefits of Payroll Giving to around 5 million employees, and the numbers are growing.

Please contact your Human Resources department to find out if they run the scheme. If they do, they will need the following information:

Name of Charity: St Nicholas Church of England Primary School Parents' and Teachers' Association

Registered Charity Number: 281171

Address: School Road, Chislehurst, Kent BR7 5PQ

EasyFundraising

Whenever you buy anything online via Easyfundraising - from your weekly shop to your annual holiday - you will raise a donation. There are nearly 3,000 retailers including Booking.com, Expedia, First Choice, Thomson, Sainsbury's, Tesco, M&S, John Lewis, Argos and Next, to name a few, who will donate a percentage of the amount you spend to our PTA to say thank you for shopping with them. It should take you less than two minutes to join!

1. Join - start at <https://new.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stnicholaschislehurst/>

Let's say you want to buy a pair of shoes from John Lewis. Instead of going to johnlewis.com, you go to easyfundraising.org.uk first – or you can use the Easyfundraising toolbar/Donation Reminder.



2. Shop

You click from the Easyfundraising website through to John Lewis to make your purchase. The price of the shoes is exactly the same as if you had visited John Lewis directly.



3. Raise

After you have bought your shoes, John Lewis will make a donation to our cause as a thank you for shopping with them. Easyfundraising collect these donations for us, and it costs nothing!

The Donation Reminder option means that each time you visit a participating retailer, you get a prompt. It really couldn't be easier! Using Easyfundraising will not cost you a penny. There are no catches or hidden charges and St Nicholas PTA Chislehurst will be really grateful for your donations.

Thank you for your support.

The PTA Committee